

## I. INTRODUCTION

On June 5, 1996, Representative William F. Clinger Jr., Chairman of the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight of the United States House of Representatives announced that his Committee had discovered that White House officials had requested the confidential Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI") background report of Billy Ray Dale, the former Director of the White House Travel and Telegraph Office ("Travel Office"), some seven months after he was fired amid much publicity and controversy. The next day, June 6, 1993, the White House delivered to the FBI three boxes containing hundreds of files of confidential FBI background reports and other materials related to former White House employees in the administrations of Presidents Ronald Reagan and George Bush.

On June 21, 1996, citing the political conflict of interest involved in a Department of Justice inquiry into dealings between the White House and the FBI, the Attorney General sought the appointment of an independent counsel to conduct such an inquiry and recommended that the Special Division expand the jurisdiction of the Independent Counsel for that purpose. Later that same day, upon the Attorney General's application, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, Division

---

prompt, responsible, and cost-effective manner.